

Quarterly Performance Report

***2nd Quarter
SFY 2004***

(October– December)

**Arkansas Department of Human Services
Division of Children and Family Services
Quality Assurance Unit**

Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc.

March 2004

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and to the legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the second quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2004, specifically October – December 2003, consists of three parts:

1. **Performance Indicators**, which provide information on service outcomes, such as:
 - a. *Percentage of Families with a True Allegation of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year After a Previous True Report*
 - b. *Percentage of Siblings in Placement who Are Placed Together*
 - c. *Percentage of Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights*
2. **Compliance Index**, which reports on the Division's compliance with requirements set by DCFS with guidance from the Arkansas legislative children and youth committees, such as:
 - a. *Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments*
 - b. *24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care*
 - c. *Foster Home Recruitment*
3. **Description of Population and Services**, which describes the children who were the subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided adoption services, such as:
 - a. *Types of Allegations in Child Maltreatment Reports*
 - b. *Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care*
 - c. *Characteristics of Children Placed in Adoptive Homes*

The QPR provides this information on a quarterly basis, showing trends over time and provides the agency with information on the populations served and pertinent issues so the agency may better target its efforts at improving performance.

Part I: Performance Indicators

DCFS has established nine performance indicators to measure its progress with regard to its major goals of child safety, permanency and well-being. During the second quarter, DCFS continued its efforts toward meeting these goals. Overall, DCFS maintained its past success in those efforts.

There were no noteworthy areas to address this quarter.

Part II: Compliance Index

DCFS has set compliance measures with guidance from the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance with these compliance measures.

There are six noteworthy areas this quarter as addressed below.

- Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely initiations stood at **81 percent**, one percentage point lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent.

For Priority 1 Referrals, seven areas decreased in compliance percentages from the last quarter, although two areas decreased by only one percentage point. Three areas increased in compliance. For Priority 2 referrals, three areas decreased in compliance percentages from the last quarter and seven increased in compliance. Most areas that implemented corrective action saw an increase in compliance for the quarter.

The level of staffing and number of experienced staff remains an issue throughout most areas that influences the ability to meet the requirement for timely initiation. The hiring freeze that was in place due to the financial situation in the Division resulted in an increase in vacant positions and a subsequent increase in caseload size for remaining Family Service Workers. Although positions were approved to be filled last quarter, the impact of this thaw in the hiring freeze may not be indicated in performance until the positions can be filled and the new hires are trained and able to assume a caseload. During the reporting period, there was an average of three areas during each month that fell below less than 75 percent of assigned staff.

This situation has been exacerbated by a 16 percent increase in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the first quarter to the

second quarter. This increase is prior to the changes in the DHS/ASP agreement. As a result of the agreement, DCFS will see an increase of approximately 600 assessments per year.

Area Managers are addressing the vacancy issue by shifting staff temporarily between counties and even sharing staff between areas temporarily.

- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely completions stood at **67 percent**, nine percentage points lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 90 percent. The percentage for the timely completion of Priority I referrals was 69 percent, while the percentage for Priority II referrals was 66 percent.

For Priority 1 Referrals, seven areas increased compliance percentages from the last quarter and three decreased in compliance. For Priority 2 referrals, seven areas decreased compliance percentages from the last quarter and three increased in compliance.

This situation has been exacerbated by a 16 percent increase in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the first quarter to the second quarter. This increase is prior to the changes in the DHS/ASP agreement. As a result of the agreement, DCFS will see an increase of approximately 600 assessments per year.

The level of staffing and number of experienced staff remains an issue throughout most areas that influences the ability to meet the requirement for timely initiation. The hiring freeze that was in place due to the financial situation in the Division resulted in an increase in vacant positions and a subsequent increase in caseload size for remaining Family Service Workers. Although positions were approved to be filled last quarter, the impact of this thaw in the hiring freeze may not be indicated in performance until the positions can be filled and the new hires are trained and able to assume a caseload. During the reporting period, there was an average of three areas during each month that fell below less than 75 percent of assigned staff.

Area Managers are addressing the vacancy issue by shifting staff temporarily between counties and even sharing staff between areas temporarily.

In addition to actions to address the vacancy issue, Area Managers with unacceptable compliance have initiated other corrective actions, including the following:

- Monitoring by the Area Manager.
 - Increased supervisory conferences on the status of investigations.
-
- 24-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care

The percentage for 24-hour initial health screenings stood at **81 percent**, nine percentage points lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent.

The majority of areas were in compliance with requirements for health screenings for children who enter foster care. Only two areas had compliance less than 93 percent. Although both areas experienced some staffing challenges, there were only 15 children statewide in the three-month period who did not receive their 24-hour health screenings in a timely manner.

DCFS will continue to work with the Division of Medical Services and physicians to address issues of timely access. We are also developing strategies to recruit foster homes so children will be placed in their home county as placements out of county sometimes result in problems obtaining timely health screenings.

- Foster Home Recruitment

There were 52 new foster homes recruited during the second quarter, lower than the goal of 80 homes. This represented a compliance rate of 65 percent.

DCFS is working on a method to better assess foster home needs as well as a new foster home recruitment campaign as part of the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) that resulted from the Child and Family Service Review.

- Foster Home Re-evaluations

The percentage for foster home re-evaluations stood at **86 percent**, lower than the previous quarter (88%) and below the goal of 95 percent.

The three areas that had less than 90 percent compliance developed corrective action plans, including new re-evaluation processes. In one

area the person assigned to conduct re-evaluations had been ill but has now returned. That area also had several foster parents that had not completed their part of the re-evaluation requirements. They have been notified of the need to do so and the area staff will monitor for the completion of the actions. The third area lost their staff person who was responsible for the re-evaluations and is now reassigning that responsibility.

- **Required Visits Made by Worker**

The percentages for required weekly visits that were made during the quarter were **20 percent** in October, **11 percent** in November and **11 percent** in December (compared to **20 percent** in July, **18 percent** in August and **22 percent** in September) and were also below the goal of 85 percent.

Required visits to children in foster care remained unacceptably low. As the QPR narrative explains, this only counts face-to-face visits by the child's worker in the foster home. Other staff, for instance an Independent Living Specialist could visit the child in the home and it would not be counted as compliance. Or the worker could call the child or visit the child at school or in court and it would not count toward compliance.

DCFS acknowledges the importance of worker contact with children in foster care and believes that these visits should often be in the home. However, DCFS believes a change in policy that would recognize that some visits in other locations may also meet good practice objectives would be appropriate. DCFS is in the process of making such a change. Our policy has been drafted and is in review currently.

Staffing issues mentioned previously impact worker's ability to complete visits as required by current policy.

Part III: Description of Population and Services

This section describes the children who were subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided adoption services.

There were no noteworthy areas this quarter. The different populations of children served this quarter were very similar to previous quarters.

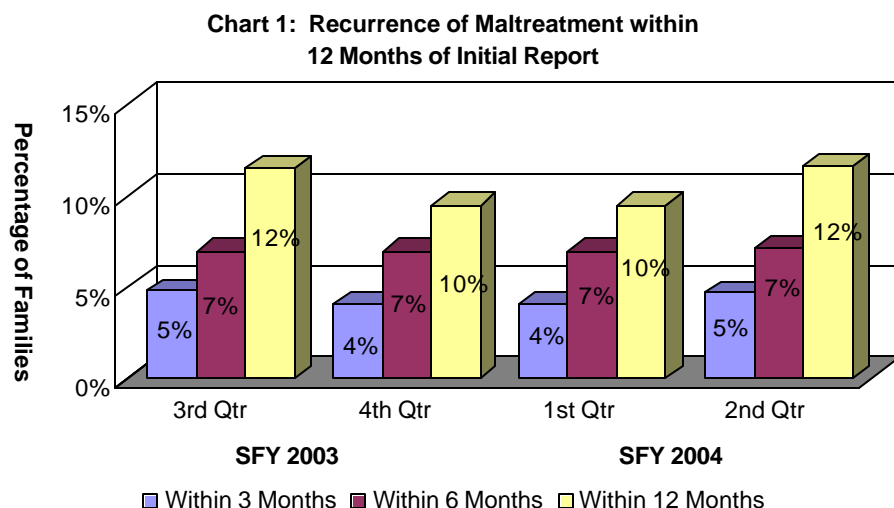
PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate levels of achievement of its major goals of child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- Percentage of families with true allegations of child maltreatment three months, six months and one year after a previous true report;
- Percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Service (IFS) who were abused or neglected within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Service (IFS) who entered foster care within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children in foster care who returned home within eighteen months;
- Percentage of children in foster care who have experienced more than three placements within the past eighteen months;
- Percentage of siblings in placement who are placed together;
- Percentage of children living with adoptive families within twelve months of the termination of parental rights; and
- Children placed in a pre-adoptive home whose adoption was finalized within 12 months of entering placement.

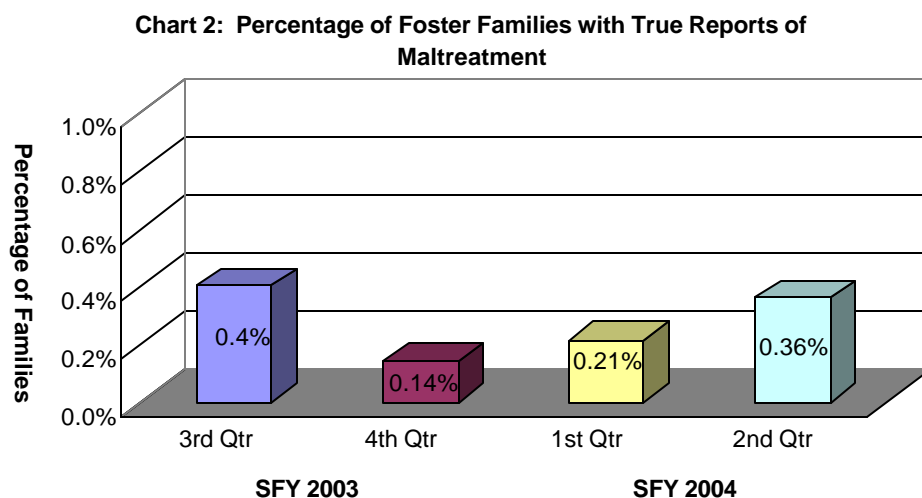
Percentage of Families with a True Allegation of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year after a Previous True Report

There were 151 subsequent true reports within 12 months of an initial true report, 52 percent involved both the same perpetrator and the same type of maltreatment as the initial report¹.



Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Of the 22 foster home maltreatment reports received during the second quarter, 5 were found to be true. Based upon 1,401 active foster homes² during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment was .36 percent.



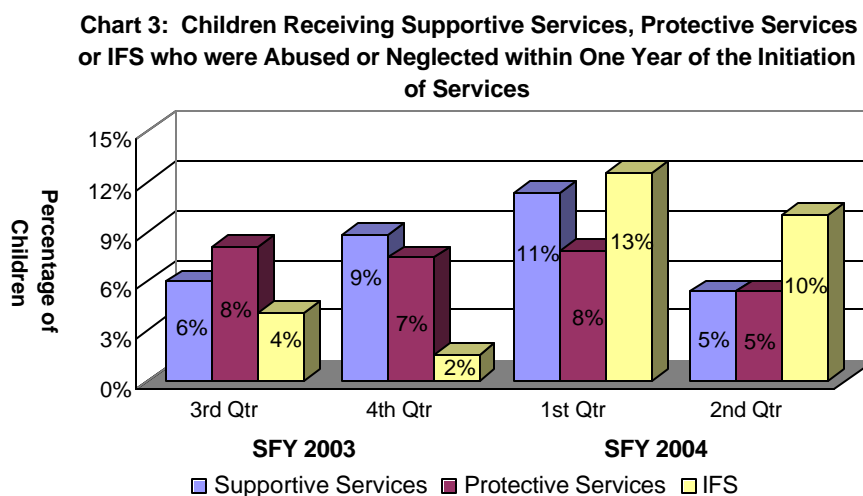
¹ The remaining 48 percent of the subsequent reports were distributed as follows: No repetition of perpetrator or type of abuse – 22%; Same perpetrator only – 9%; Same type of abuse only – 17%.

² This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services

Generally, families receiving supportive services have less severe problems, while families receiving Intensive Family Services (IFS) are by definition in imminent risk of having one or more children placed in foster care or already have children in foster care, with families receiving protective services falling somewhere between those extremes.

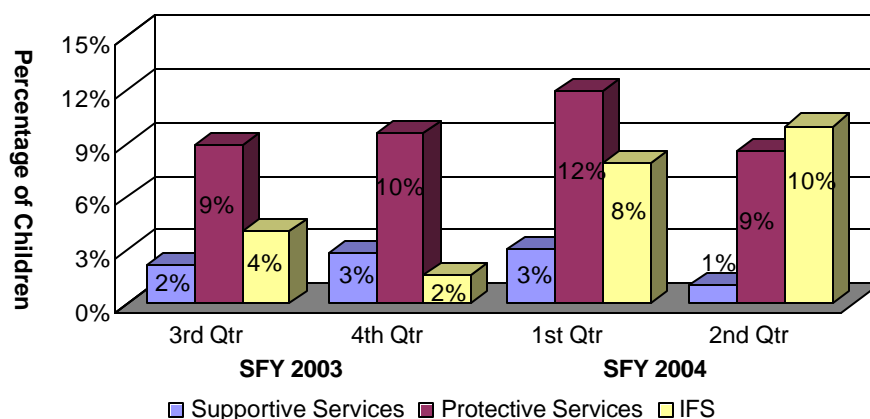
Of the 321 children who began receiving supportive services between October and December 2002, 17 (5%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 2,882 children who began receiving protective services, 152 (5%) children were involved in a true report within one year, and 3 (10%) of the 30 children who began receiving IFS services during that same time were also involved in a true report within one year.



Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services

There were 3 of the 321 children who began receiving supportive services, 249 of the 2,882 children who began receiving protective services and 3 of the 30 children who began receiving IFS services between October and December 2002 entered foster care within the year.

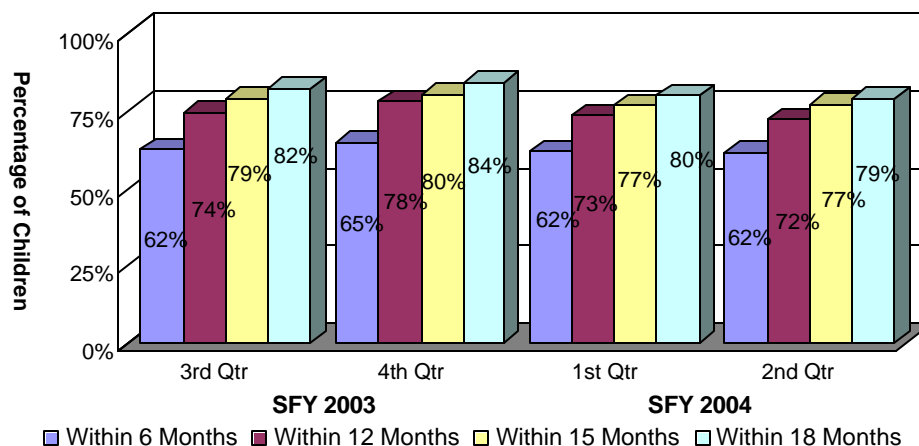
Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services



Percentage of Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months

There were 794 children who entered foster care during the quarter 18 months prior to the current quarter. Of those, 79 percent or 626 children returned home within 18 months of entering into foster care.

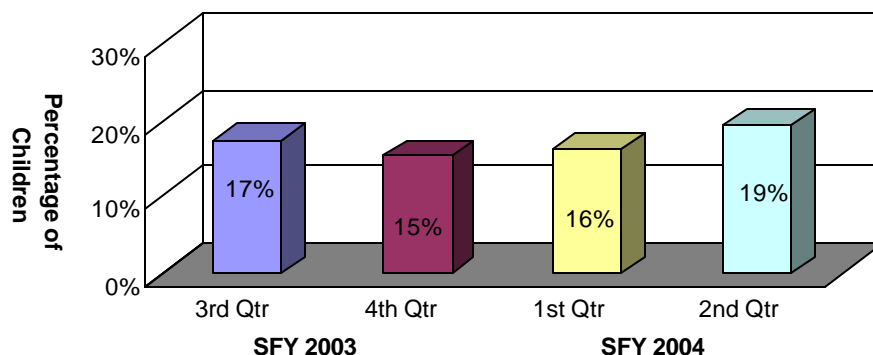
Chart 5: Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months



Percentage of Children in Foster Care who have Experienced More Than Three Placements within the Past Eighteen Months

Of the 794 children who entered foster care 18 months prior to the current quarter, 154 children (19%) have experienced more than three placements. This represented a three percentage point increase from the previous quarter. Of those same 794 children, 140 (18%) experienced more than three placements within 15 months of entering foster care. DCFS commissioned a special study on this issue that revealed children who experience the most placements are older children or children with behavioral problems³. The agency is working with the Division of Mental Health Services, the Division of Medical Services and the Council of Community Health Centers on the development of a more adequate system of services for children who experience these problems.

Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Three or More Placements within the Past Eighteen Months

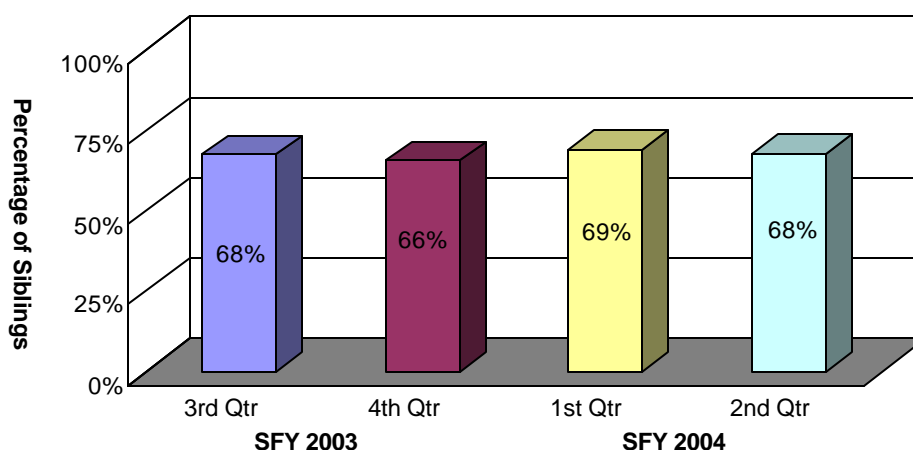


³ "Multiple Placements of Children in Foster Care," SFY 2003

Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together

During the second quarter, there were 1,894 foster children with siblings who were also in care. Sixty-eight percent of those children (1,297 children) were placed with at least one of their siblings; lower than the previous quarter. Of those same 1,894 children, 898 (47%) were placed with all their siblings, which was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter. These figures do not exclude children who have been placed separately for valid reasons such as safety issues or court orders.

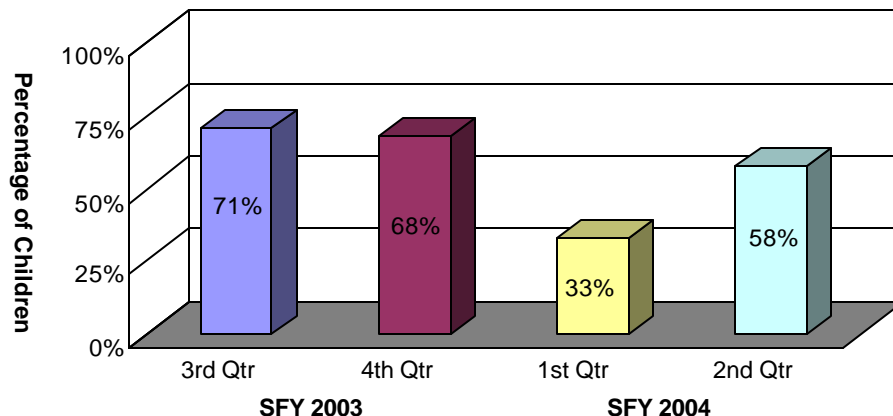
Chart 7: Siblings in Care who are Placed Together



Percentage of Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights

Of the 116 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated between October and December 2002, 67 children (58%) were placed in an adoptive home within 12 months of the termination of parental rights, which was higher than the previous quarter.

Chart 8: Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights



Children Placed in a Pre-adoptive Home whose Adoption was Finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Placement

There were 73 children who were placed in a pre-adoptive home between October 1, 2002 and December 31, 2002. Of those, 51 children or 70 percent had a finalized adoption within 12 months of being placed in the pre-adoptive home.

Of the same 73 children, 11 children or 15 percent experienced a disruption. A disruption occurs when a child has been placed in a pre-adoptive home and the family or the child has decided not to proceed with the adoption and the child leaves the pre-adoptive home.

There were 15 children whose adoption was still pending finalization 12 months after their placement in an adoptive home.

**Table 1: Children Placed in a Pre-adoptive Home during Quarter One Year Ago
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Children Placed in a Pre-adoptive Home	73
Finalized Adoption	51
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	11
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in a Pre-adoptive Home	4
Still Pending at the End of the Quarter	15

PART II: COMPLIANCE INDEX

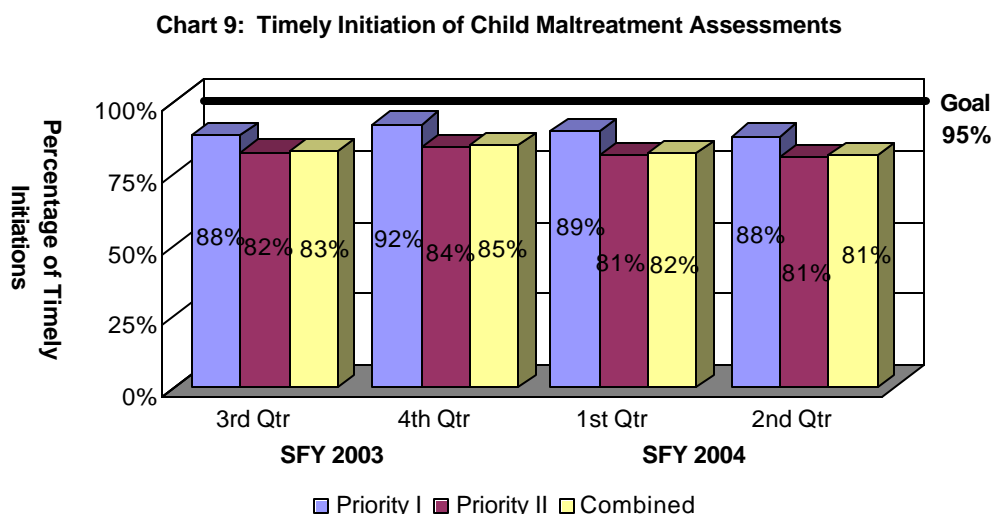
The Division has set compliance measures with guidance from the Joint Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance in relation to these measures.

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Compliance Measure</u>
95%	<i>Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments.</i> Timely initiation means the investigator interviews or observes the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours of any report of alleged severe maltreatment or within 72 hours otherwise.
90%	<i>Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments.</i> Timely completion means a determination must be made regarding an allegation of child maltreatment within 30 days of receipt of the allegation.
95%	<i>24-Hour Initial Health Screenings.</i> This screening is conducted within 24 hours after removal from the home on children who enter foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury.
95%	<i>72-Hour Initial Health Screenings.</i> This screening is conducted within 72 hours after removal from the home on all children who enter foster care who are not subject to the 24-hour screening.
95%	<i>Comprehensive Health Assessments.</i> The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the physical and mental health status of all foster children and is to be completed within 60 days of a child entering foster care.
80 Homes	<i>Foster Home Recruitment.</i> DCFS must ensure a sufficient number and variety of foster homes meeting minimal standards and matched to the needs and characteristics of foster children are available. The goal is 80 homes for the quarter or 320 homes for the year.
95%	<i>Foster Home Re-evaluations.</i> DCFS must re-evaluate at least annually each foster home's ability to care for children.
85%	<i>Required Visits Made by Worker.</i> DCFS must provide data on the percentages of required weekly visits made by DCFS workers to children in foster care.

Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Whenever there is an allegation of child maltreatment, the Family Service Worker, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) staff member or other local law enforcement must interview or observe the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 72 hours of the report (Priority II), unless there is an allegation of severe maltreatment, in which case the interview or observation must occur within 24 hours of the report (Priority I). There were 5,120 referrals for child maltreatment assessments during the second quarter. Of that number, 246 Priority I referrals and 3,596 Priority II referrals were assigned to DCFS for investigation. Of the DCFS Priority I referrals, 216 (88%) assessments were initiated within the required 24-hour period; of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 2,902 (81%) assessments were initiated within the required 72-hour period⁴. The compliance rates for both DCFS Priority I and II initiations were below the 95 percent goal and resulted in a combined compliance rate of 81 percent, also below the goal. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

As noted previously, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police is also responsible for handling child abuse assessments. CACD was responsible for 1,278 of the 5,120 referrals that came in during the quarter – 1,167 Priority I referrals and 111 Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,071 assessments (92%) were initiated timely. Of the Priority II referrals, 99 assessments (89%) were initiated in a timely manner.

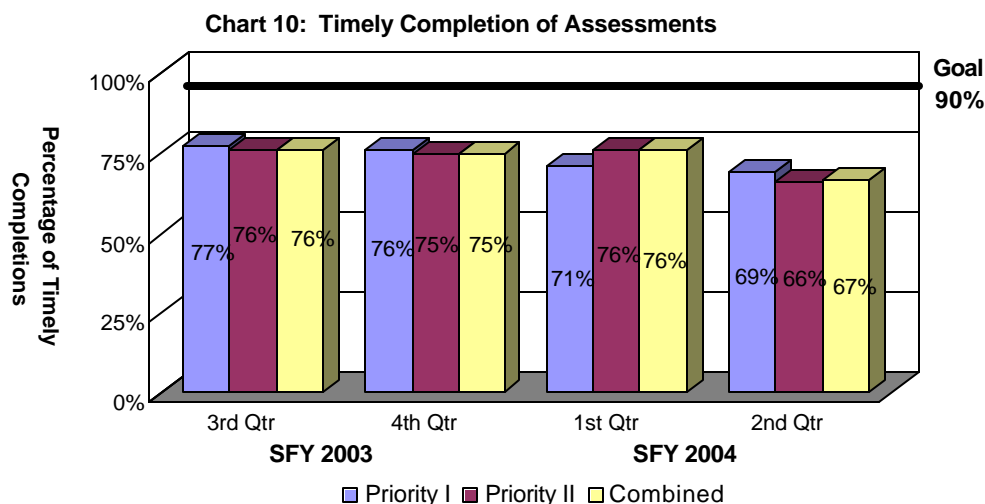


⁴ DCFS had 216 Priority I referrals and 2,902 Priority II referrals that were initiated timely. Of those, 11 Priority I (5%) and 574 Priority II referrals (20%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,071 Priority I referrals and 99 Priority II referrals that were initiated timely. Of those, 14 Priority I (1%) and 8 Priority II (8%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 246 DCFS Priority I assessments initiated, 170 (69%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 3,596 DCFS Priority II assessments initiated, 2,385 (66%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 3,842 assessments assigned to DCFS, 2,555 assessments were completed in a timely fashion. This resulted in a compliance rate of 67 percent, lower than the first quarter and below the goal of 90 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

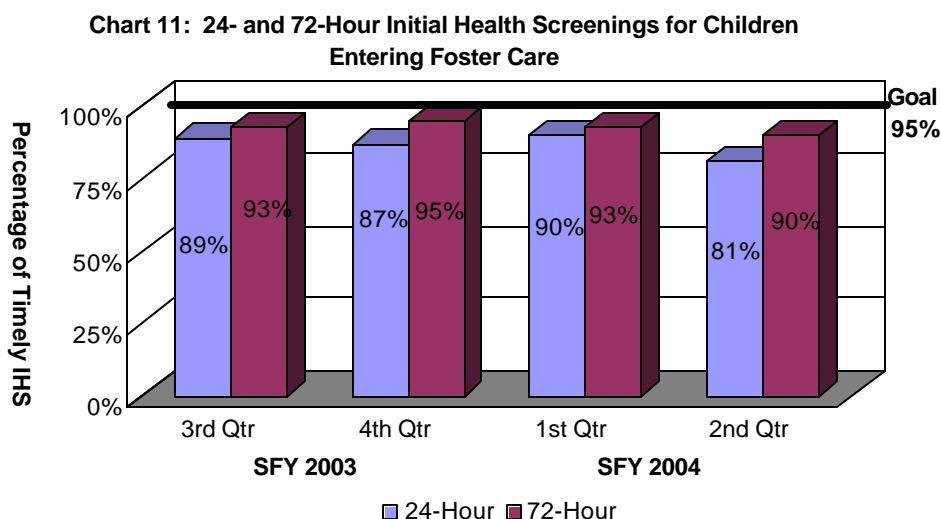
As referenced earlier, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police was responsible for 1,278 of the 5,120 referrals that came in during the quarter – 1,167 Priority I referrals and 111 Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I assessments, 859 (74%) were completed in a timely fashion. Of the Priority II assessments, 92 (83%) were completed in a timely fashion.



24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care

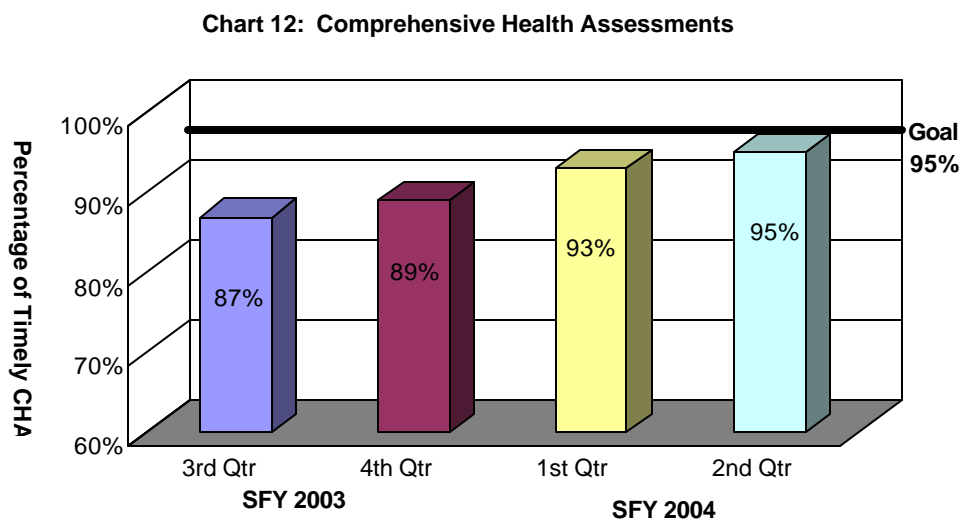
If a child enters foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury, an initial health screening must be conducted within 24 hours of the child's removal from the home. Of the 77 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the second quarter, 62 children (81%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

All children who enter foster care and who do not require the initial 24-hour health screening (*i.e.*, there is no allegation of severe maltreatment) must undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of removal from the home. Of the 628 children who required their health screening within 72 hours, 567 children (90%) received their screenings in a timely manner, which was lower than the previous quarter and did not meet the goal of 95 percent.



Comprehensive Health Assessments

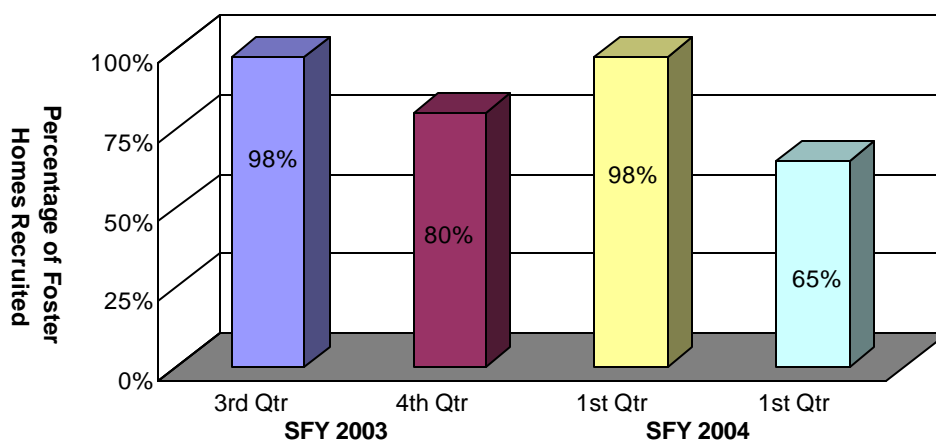
All children who enter foster care must receive a comprehensive health assessment to evaluate their physical and mental health status within 60 days of entering foster care. There were 393 children who entered foster care between August 2, 2003 and November 1, 2003 and who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those, 374 children received their comprehensive health assessment within 60 days after entering care. The resulting compliance rate was 95 percent, higher than the previous quarter and met the goal of 95 percent.



Foster Home Recruitment

There were 52 new foster homes recruited during the second quarter, lower than the goal of 80 new homes. The compliance rate of 65 percent was substantially lower than the previous quarter (98%). (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

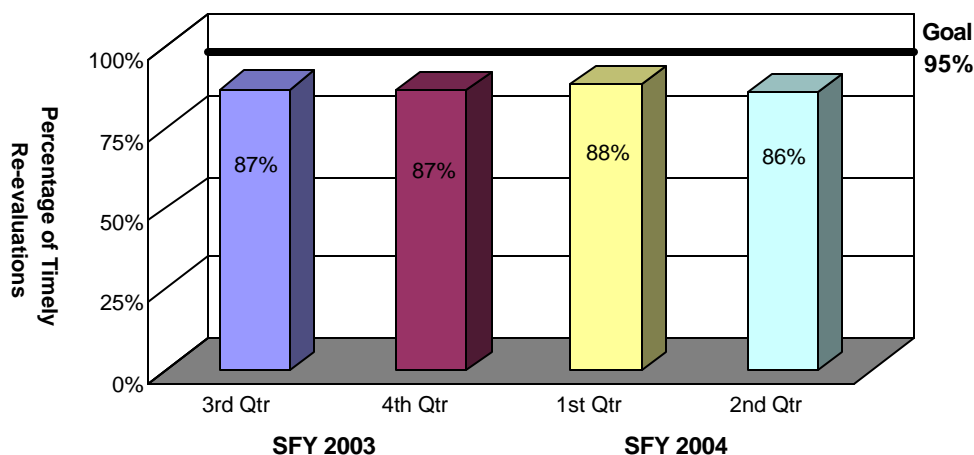
Chart 13: Foster Home Recruitment



Foster Home Re-evaluations

DCFS is required to re-evaluate at least annually each foster home's ability to care for children. Of the 936 DHS foster homes that were active at the end of the second quarter, 805 homes had a completed current re-evaluation. The resulting compliance rate was 86 percent, lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent compliance. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

Chart 14: Foster Home Re-evaluations



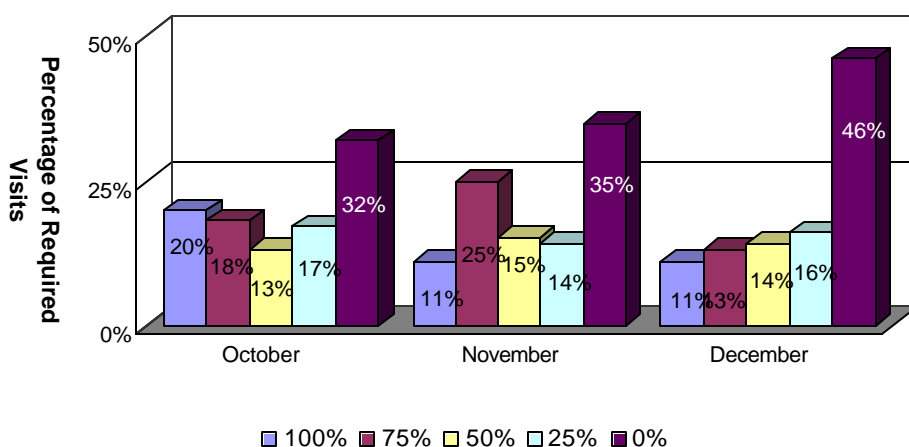
Required Visits Made by Worker

DCFS policy requires that caseworkers make regular visits to children in foster care. The appropriate frequency is considered to be no less than weekly. Supervisors may approve a deviation from this frequency based on the needs of the child and the circumstances of the child's placement.

Additionally, the information reported here does not include all visits made to or on behalf of children in foster care. The definition of what is measured here is very narrow. The caseworker must have chosen to document the purpose of the visit from a pick list of several different types of purposes of visits. In order to meet the necessary criteria, the visit must have occurred in the home. Visits with the child made at school, during a doctor's visit or while providing transportation would not be counted in this report. Therefore, this section does not purport to completely report the frequency of all visits made with children in foster care, but only those visits that meet the appropriate criteria. Each of the graphs on this and the following page shows the data for each month during the quarter.

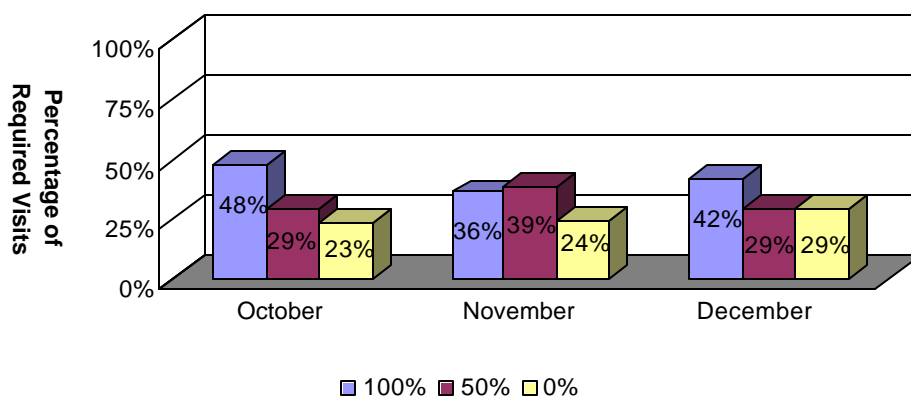
The information reported below is based on visits made to children for whom weekly visits are necessary. The percentages of children needing weekly visits who received all of the required visits decreased from 20 percent in October to 11 percent in November and December (compared to 20 percent in July, 18 percent in August and 22 percent in September). (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

Chart 15a: Required Foster Care Weekly Visits Made by Worker



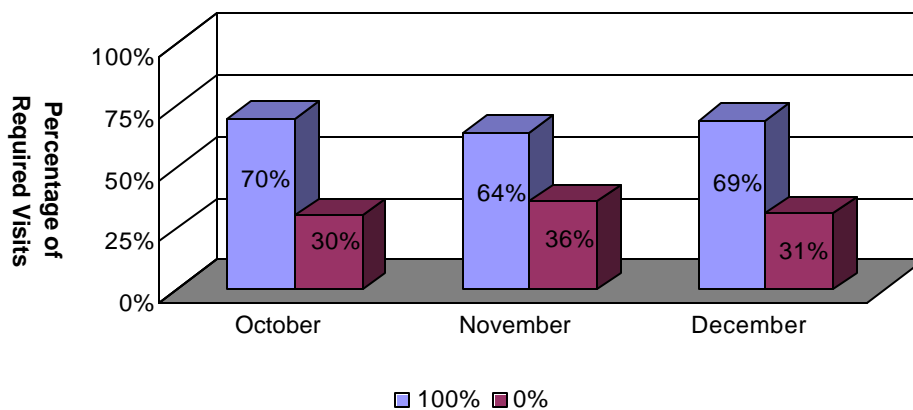
As previously stated, supervisors may approve a deviation from the weekly visit requirement based on the needs of the child and the circumstances of the child's placement. The information reported below is based on visits made to children for whom bi-weekly and monthly visits are necessary. As the chart illustrates below, compliance with bi-weekly visitation requirements decreased from October to November and then increased in December.

Chart 15b: Required Foster Care Bi-Weekly Visits Made by Worker



As the chart illustrates below, the percentage of cases meeting monthly visitation requirements decreased from 70 percent in October to 64 percent in November and then increased to 69 percent in December.

Chart 15c: Required Foster Care Monthly Visits Made by Worker



PART III: DESCRIPTION OF POPULATION AND SERVICES

This section describes the number and status of maltreatment assessments, children who were served in foster care and children who were provided adoption services.

Section I outlines the characteristics of children such as age, gender and ethnicity, in true maltreatment reports and specifically compares state ethnicity data to that of national data. Additionally, this section describes the types of allegations in maltreatment reports.

Section II describes the foster care population. Specifically, the characteristics of children in foster care, entries and exits of children in foster care, reasons children came into care, lengths of stay for children in foster care as well as children in relative care, placements of children in foster care and the number of placements children experience while in care.

Section III focuses on adoption data such as the characteristics of children available for adoption, current placement of those children, characteristics of children placed in adoptive homes, children whose parents have had parental rights terminated but not placed in an adoptive home, finalized adoptions and adoption subsidies.

Part III: Description of Population and Services

Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

Child Maltreatment Assessments

There were 5,120 maltreatment assessments assigned during the second quarter. Of those, 1,329 reports or 26 percent were found to be true, lower than the national percentage (28%)⁵. There were 2,014 victim children involved in the 1,329 true reports during the quarter.

Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments

	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
1st Quarter	4,614	1,252	27%
2nd Quarter	5,120	1,329	26%

⁵ Source: Child Maltreatment 2001, Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau.

Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports

There were 2,014 victim children involved in true reports during the second quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for the victim children during the quarter⁶.

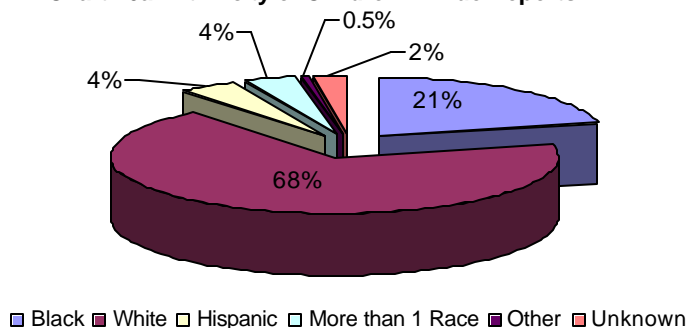
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	61	18	0	0	0	5	3	87
	Male	69	32	0	1	0	4	4	110
2 to 5	Female	156	41	0	1	0	12	6	216
	Male	153	48	0	1	0	17	6	225
6 to 11	Female	231	65	0	1	0	10	16	323
	Male	232	80	0	3	0	11	16	342
12 to 15	Female	222	75	0	0	1	14	11	323
	Male	114	40	0	1	0	3	9	167
16 to 18	Female	78	21	0	1	0	4	2	106
	Male	49	10	0	0	0	4	2	65
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total*		1,366	430	0	9	1	84	75	1,965

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 49 children.

Of children involved in true maltreatment reports, 68 percent were white and 21 percent were black.

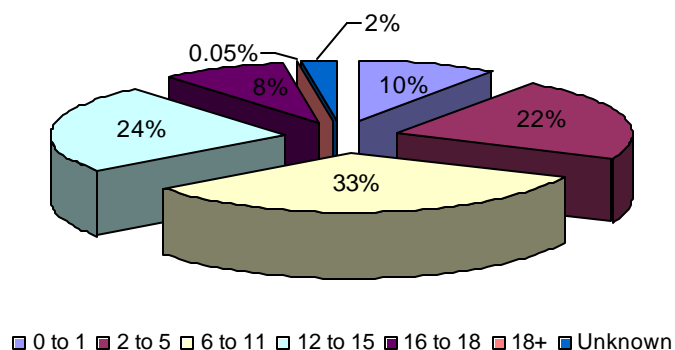
Chart 16a: Ethnicity of Children in True Reports



⁶ The table above, and each subsequent demographic table, divides up "other" races and ethnicities into the following categories: "Hispanic," "More than One Race," "Asian" (includes Indonesian, Cambodian, Hmong and Vietnamese), "AIAN" (includes Native American, Alaskan Native and American Indian) and "NAPI" (includes Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders).

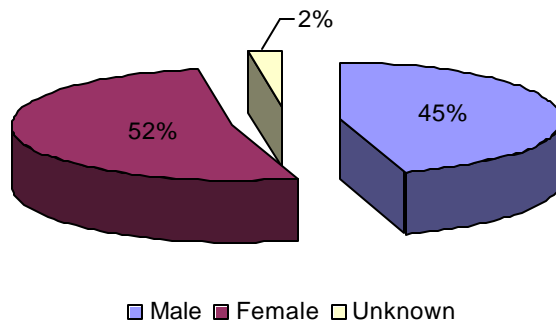
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports.

Chart 16b: Ages of Children in True Reports



There were more female children (52%) involved in true maltreatment reports than male children (45%).

Chart 16c: Gender of Children in True Reports



Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports

The majority of the 2,014 children involved in true maltreatment reports (63%) were involved in neglect allegations during the quarter, followed by sexual abuse allegations (24%) and physical abuse allegations (24%)⁷.

Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment

	2nd Quarter SFY 2004	
Neglect	1,264	63%
Physical Abuse	484	24%
Sexual Abuse	476	24%

⁷ The total number of children represented will outnumber the total children involved in true maltreatment reports because a child can be involved in more than one allegation. Therefore, percentages of children involved in maltreatment reports will be greater than 100 percent.

Part III: Description of Population and Services

Section II: Foster Care

Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

There were 3,765 children in foster care during the second quarter. This includes children who have remained in care from previous quarters as well as children who came into care during the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of children who were in care during the quarter.

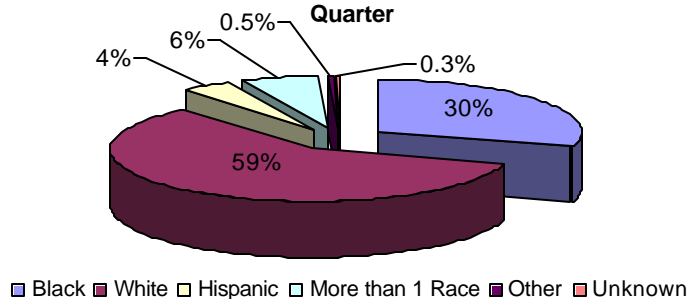
Table 5: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care during the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	118	53	0	0	0	14	9	194
	Male	130	52	0	0	2	14	12	210
2 to 5	Female	236	108	1	0	0	26	21	392
	Male	250	113	2	0	0	24	24	413
6 to 11	Female	248	135	2	0	0	10	37	432
	Male	321	136	1	0	0	14	33	505
12 to 15	Female	263	149	0	2	0	17	38	469
	Male	245	143	1	1	0	11	23	424
16 to 18	Female	200	96	0	3	0	12	17	328
	Male	139	71	1	0	0	7	13	231
18+	Female	44	38	0	0	0	1	3	86
	Male	31	33	0	1	0	0	3	68
Total*		2,225	1,127	8	7	2	150	233	3,752

*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for 13 children.

The chart below shows 59 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white, while 30 percent of the children were black. National data reveals that only 37 percent of the children in the national foster care system were white, while 38 percent of the children were black⁸.

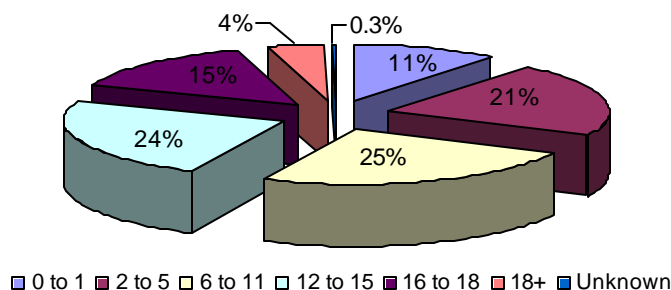
Chart 17a: Ethnicity of Children in Care during the Quarter



⁸ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

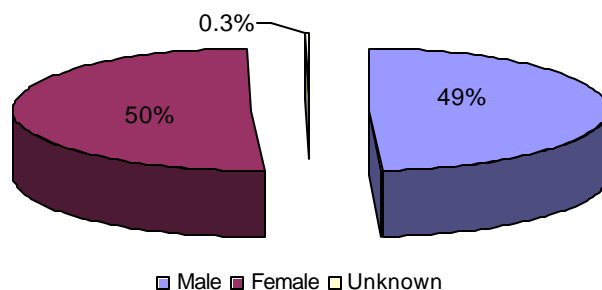
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children who were in care during the quarter.

Chart 17b: Ages of Children in Foster Care during the Quarter



The following chart shows that 50 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were female, while 49 percent were male.

Chart 17c: Gender of Children in Foster Care during the Quarter



There were 3,053 children in foster care at the end of the quarter, a slight increase from the 3,046 children in care at the end of first quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children in foster care at the end of the second quarter.

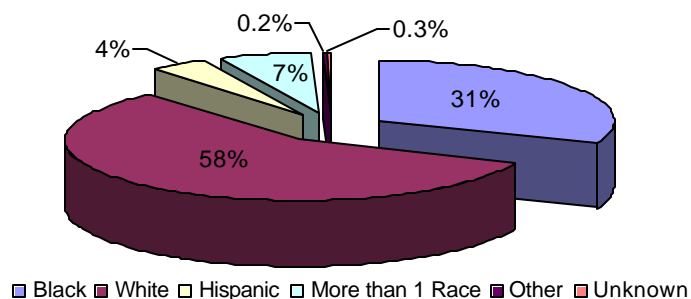
**Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the end of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	85	45	0	0	0	12	8	150
	Male	91	38	0	0	1	10	11	151
2 to 5	Female	178	93	0	0	0	22	17	310
	Male	199	96	0	0	0	19	21	335
6 to 11	Female	195	105	0	0	0	9	34	343
	Male	258	118	0	0	0	11	28	415
12 to 15	Female	207	124	0	1	0	11	31	374
	Male	208	129	1	0	0	9	18	365
16 to 18	Female	190	106	0	3	0	8	17	324
	Male	141	75	0	1	0	6	14	237
18+	Female	9	9	0	0	0	1	0	19
	Male	9	13	0	0	0	0	0	22
Total*		1,770	951	1	5	1	118	199	3,045

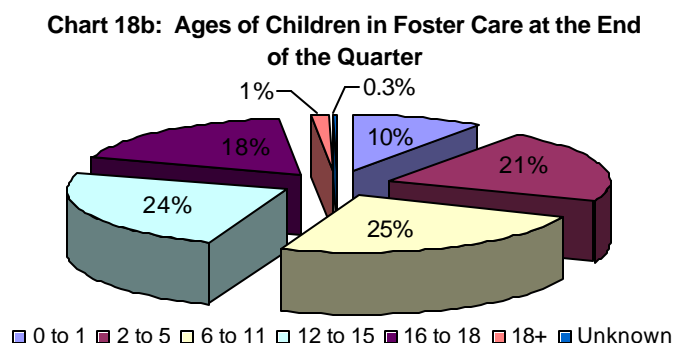
*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for eight children.

The chart below shows 58 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 31 percent of the children were black. These percentages were the same as the previous quarter and similar to the percentages for children who were in care during the quarter.

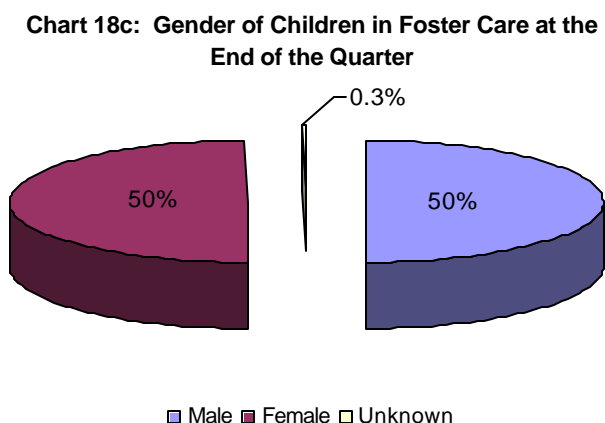
Chart 18a: Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter.



The following chart shows the gender of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter was evenly distributed and similar to the percentages for children who were in care during the quarter.



Entries into Foster Care

The data showed that 767 children entered foster care during the second quarter, a decrease from the second quarter (893).

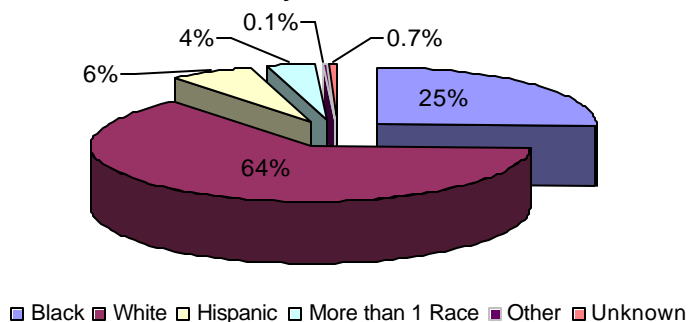
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care during the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	38	12	0	0	0	4	2	56
	Male	50	21	0	0	0	6	4	81
2 to 5	Female	59	18	0	0	0	5	4	86
	Male	58	23	0	0	0	9	4	94
6 to 11	Female	64	36	0	0	0	5	2	107
	Male	77	26	0	0	0	8	7	118
12 to 15	Female	61	23	0	1	0	4	1	90
	Male	40	20	0	0	0	3	2	65
16 to 18	Female	30	10	0	0	0	3	2	45
	Male	13	6	0	0	0	1	0	20
Total*		490	195	0	1	0	48	28	762

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for five children.

The chart below shows 64 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 25 percent of the children were black. National data indicates that 46 percent of the children who entered care were white, 28 percent were black and 16 percent were hispanic⁹.

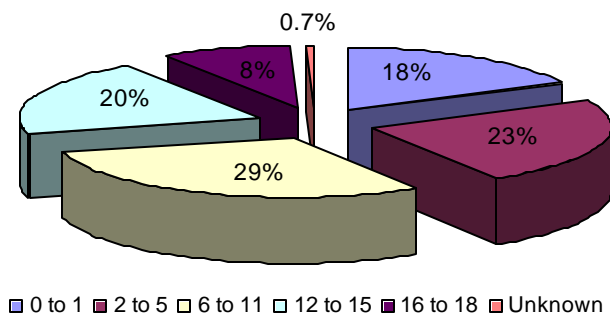
Chart 19a: Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care



⁹ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

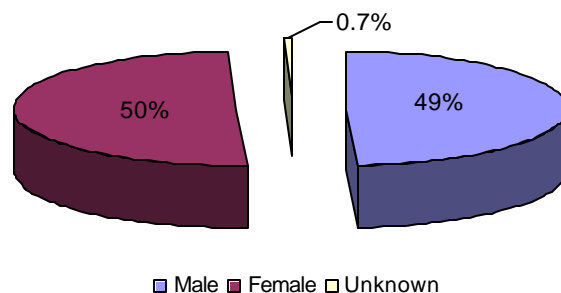
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the greatest percentage of children (29%) who entered foster care during the quarter.

Chart 19b: Ages of Children who Entered Care



The following chart shows the gender of the children who entered foster care during the second quarter. Of the 767 children who entered care, 50 percent of the children were female and 49 percent were male.

Chart 19c: Gender of Children who Entered Care



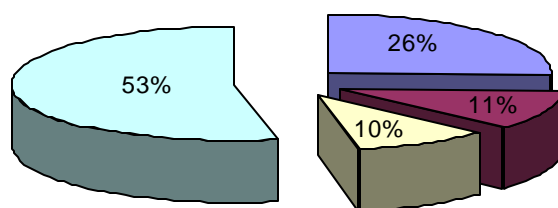
The reasons for entry into foster care for the children, who were in foster care during the quarter (Table 8), were very similar to those found in Table 9. Neglect and substance abuse¹⁰ were the most prevalent reasons children entered care.

**Table 8: Reasons Children in Care during the Quarter were Placed in Foster Care by Age
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	Total
Neglect	340	455	575	345	76	1791
Substance Abuse	131	158	240	199	43	771
Parent Incarceration	98	186	200	132	14	630
Physical Abuse	121	158	213	143	40	675
Child's Behavior	3	13	118	284	92	510
Abandonment	42	75	106	110	45	378
Inadequate Housing	112	181	227	132	28	680
Caretaker Illness	100	80	139	162	44	525
Sexual Abuse	15	68	158	144	38	423
Truancy	2	14	34	83	33	166
Child's Disability	12	7	20	11	6	56
Parent Death	0	0	7	14	4	25
Sex Offender	5	3	7	29	4	48
Relinquishment	7	3	12	17	1	40
Adoption	0	0	0	3	0	3
Managed Mental Health	0	0	3	12	1	16
Other	17	25	43	42	10	137
Teen Parent in Care	35	1	2	3	5	46
Total*	1,040	1,427	2,104	1,865	484	6,920

*There are more reasons for entry than children in care because a child may have more than one reason for entry.

**Chart 20: Reasons Children in Care during the
Quarter were Placed in Foster Care**



■ Neglect ■ Substance Abuse ■ Inadequate Housing ■ All Other Reasons

¹⁰ Of the 771 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 52 reasons for entry (7%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 719 reasons for entry (93%).

**Table 9: Reasons Children Placed in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
Neglect	<i>Female</i>	414	220	0	1	0	29	53	717
	<i>Male</i>	464	232	0	0	1	32	49	778
Substance Abuse	<i>Female</i>	206	73	0	0	0	4	15	298
	<i>Male</i>	213	74	0	0	0	9	21	317
Parent Incarceration	<i>Female</i>	141	58	0	0	0	10	25	234
	<i>Male</i>	160	51	0	0	0	12	19	242
Physical Abuse	<i>Female</i>	131	117	0	0	0	15	18	281
	<i>Male</i>	146	100	0	0	0	8	18	272
Child's Behavior	<i>Female</i>	128	55	0	3	0	2	10	198
	<i>Male</i>	136	69	1	0	0	7	13	226
Abandonment	<i>Female</i>	57	76	0	0	0	10	13	156
	<i>Male</i>	73	76	0	1	1	7	5	163
Inadequate Housing	<i>Female</i>	149	74	0	1	0	10	28	262
	<i>Male</i>	183	90	0	0	0	11	21	305
Caretaker Illness	<i>Female</i>	143	40	0	2	0	11	9	205
	<i>Male</i>	167	48	0	0	0	10	16	241
Sexual Abuse	<i>Female</i>	168	52	0	1	0	12	19	252
	<i>Male</i>	58	13	0	0	0	7	8	86
Truancy	<i>Female</i>	51	24	0	2	0	1	2	80
	<i>Male</i>	39	16	0	0	0	2	2	59
Child's Disability	<i>Female</i>	13	4	0	0	0	0	1	18
	<i>Male</i>	22	9	0	0	0	0	0	31
Parent Death	<i>Female</i>	5	2	0	0	0	1	1	9
	<i>Male</i>	3	7	0	0	0	0	1	11
Sex Offender	<i>Female</i>	9	1	0	0	0	0	1	11
	<i>Male</i>	23	5	0	0	0	2	1	31
Relinquishment	<i>Female</i>	7	10	0	0	0	0	2	19
	<i>Male</i>	11	4	0	0	0	0	2	17
Managed Mental Health	<i>Female</i>	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
	<i>Male</i>	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	10
Other	<i>Female</i>	25	27	0	0	0	0	4	56
	<i>Male</i>	37	34	0	0	0	0	3	74
Total*		3,390	1,666	1	11	2	212	380	5,662

*There are more reasons for entry than children in care because a child may have more than one reason for entry.

Exits from Foster Care

There were 723 children who left foster care during the quarter, which represented a 24 percent decrease in the number of children who left foster care.

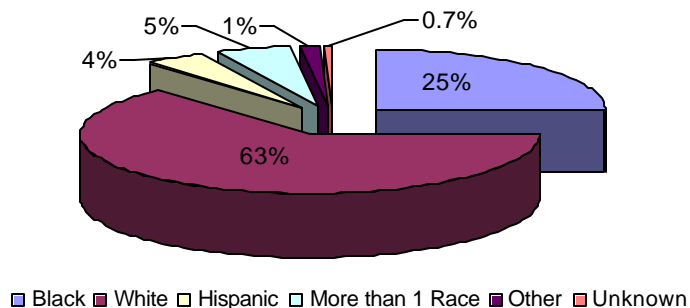
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care during the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	32	7	0	0	0	2	1	42
	Male	39	14	0	0	1	4	1	59
2 to 5	Female	58	15	1	0	0	4	4	82
	Male	51	18	2	0	0	5	5	81
6 to 11	Female	52	32	2	0	0	1	3	90
	Male	64	17	1	0	0	3	6	91
12 to 15	Female	58	27	0	1	0	5	7	98
	Male	37	16	0	1	0	2	5	61
16 to 18	Female	44	15	0	0	0	4	2	65
	Male	20	14	1	0	0	1	2	38
18+	Female	2	5	0	0	0	0	1	8
	Male	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total*		457	183	7	2	1	31	37	718

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for five children.

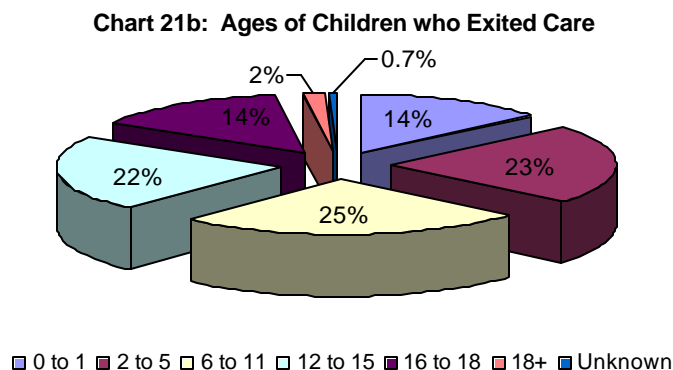
Of the 723 children who left foster care, 63 percent were white, while 25 percent of the children who left care were black. National data indicates that 45 percent of the children who left foster care were white and 30 percent were black¹¹.

Chart 21a: Ethnicity of Children who Exited Care

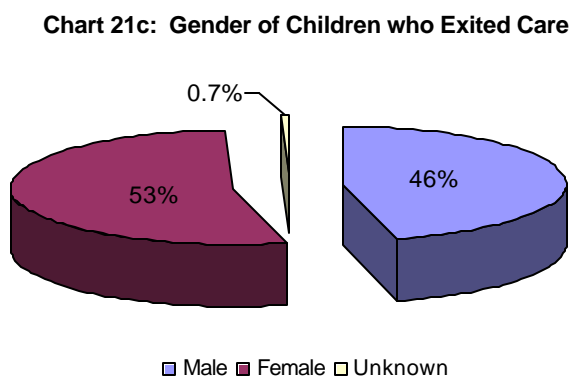


¹¹ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the highest percentage of children (25%) who left foster care during the quarter.



The gender of the children who left care during the quarter varied slightly from the previous quarter. The percentage of female children who left care increased to 53 percent from the previous quarter (50%), while the percentage of male children decreased to 46 percent from the previous quarter (50%).



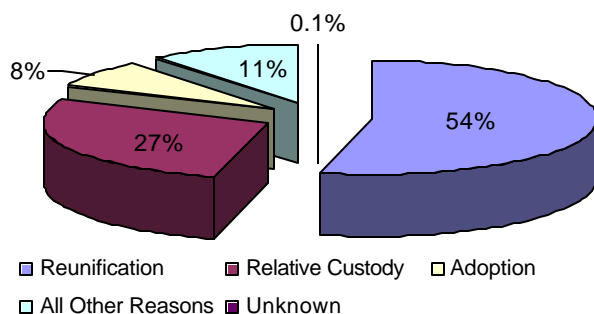
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	54	90	110	94	42	0	390
Relative Custody	36	48	54	45	15	0	198
Adoption	9	24	15	7	2	0	57
Child Aged Out	0	0	1	0	35	11	47
Non-Relative Custody	1	3	3	10	5	0	22
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Custody Transfer	0	0	0	3	1	0	4
Death of Child	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total*	101	165	183	159	103	11	722

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for one child.

The most prevalent reason children left foster care during the quarter was for reunification (54%). The second most prevalent reason a child left care was for relative custody (27%), followed by adoption (8%). National data indicated the three most prevalent reasons children left care were reunification (57%), adoption (18%) and relative care (10 %) ¹².

Chart 22: Most Prevalent Reasons Children Left Care



¹² Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care

The Division has two primary goals for children in foster care: that they are safe and that they are placed in a permanent home. The second of these concerns is expressed by setting a permanency goal for each child in foster care. For children in care at the end of the second quarter, more children had the goal of returning home than any other goal. National data reveal very similar figures to those shown here¹³.

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care
1st Quarter SFY 2003 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		National
Return Home	1,384	45%	1,347	44%	44%
Adoption	811	27%	772	25%	22%
Independence	537	18%	533	17%	n/a
Remain at Home	113	4%	119	4%	n/a
Relative Care	104	3%	94	3%	5%
Guardianship	12	.4%	16	.5%	3%
Emancipation	n/a	n/a	1	.03%	6%
Long Term Care	0	0%	0	0%	8%
Not Yet Established	85	3%	171	6%	11%
Total*	3,046	100%	3,053	100%	100%

*Sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

¹³ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2001 (10/01/00 to 9/30/01) as of March 2003.

Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care

For the 3,765 children in care during the quarter, 53 percent had been in care less than one year. Comparison to national data indicates that children in Arkansas' foster care system stay in care a decidedly shorter amount of time¹⁴.

**Table 13a: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Number	Percentage	National
Less than 30 days	392	10%	4%
30-90 Days	508	14%	17%
3-6 Months	413	11%	
6-12 Months	666	18%	15%
12-24 Months	783	21%	20%
24-36 Months	450	12%	12%
36+ Months	553	15%	32%
Total*	3,765	100%	100%

*Sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

**Table 13b: Length of Stay of Children in Relative Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Number	Percentage*
Less than 30 days	2	2%
30-90 Days	16	17%
3-6 Months	9	9%
6-12 Months	10	10%
12-24 Months	15	15%
24-36 Months	22	23%
36+ Months	23	24%
Total	97	100%

**Table 13c: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Excluding Relative Care)
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	390	11%
30-90 Days	492	13%
3-6 Months	404	11%
6-12 Months	656	18%
12-24 Months	768	21%
24-36 Months	428	12%
36+ Months	530	14%
Total	3,668	100%

¹⁴ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2001 (10/01/00 to 9/30/01) as of March 2003.

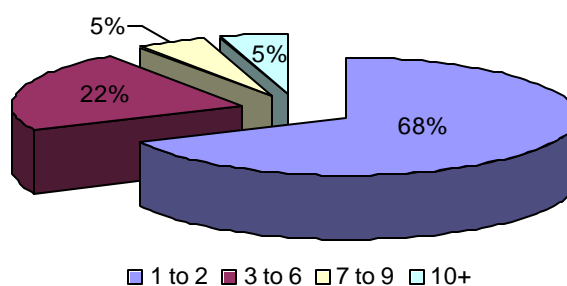
Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care

For the second quarter of SFY 2004, 68 percent of the children in care at the end of the quarter had experienced fewer than three placements, a one percentage-point increase from the previous quarter (67%).

Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care
1st Quarter SFY 2003 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2004

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter	
1-2 Placements	2,046	67%	2,073	68%
3-6 Placements	692	23%	679	22%
7-9 Placements	146	5%	154	5%
10+ Placements	162	5%	147	5%
Total	3,046	100%	3,053	100%

Chart 23: Number of Placements for Children in Care at the End of the Quarter



Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements

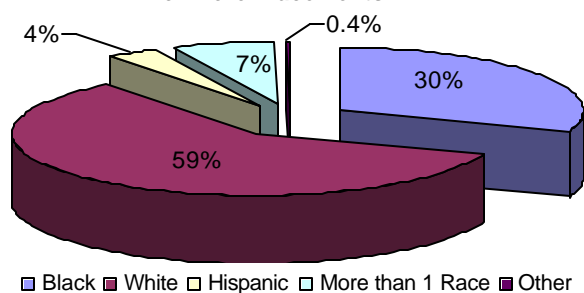
There were 3,053 children in care at the end of the quarter. Of those, 1,371 children experienced two or more placements while in foster care.

**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	13	5	0	0	0	4	2	24
	Male	21	11	0	0	0	2	1	35
2 to 5	Female	56	33	0	0	0	6	7	102
	Male	65	19	0	0	0	8	6	98
6 to 11	Female	122	56	0	0	0	6	12	196
	Male	89	35	0	0	0	2	15	141
12 to 15	Female	127	71	1	0	0	6	8	213
	Male	113	71	0	1	0	4	16	205
16 to 18	Female	86	48	0	0	0	6	12	152
	Male	115	60	0	3	0	7	11	196
18+	Female	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	7
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		810	415	1	4	0	51	90	1,371

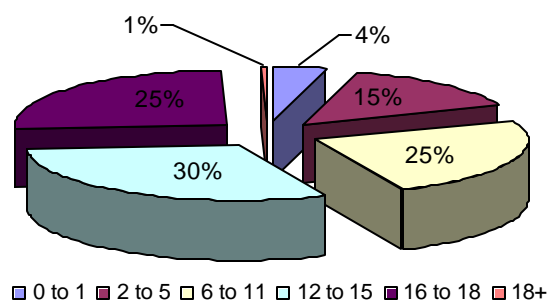
Of the 1,371 children who experienced two or more placements, 59 percent were white and 30 percent were black.

Chart 24a: Ethnicity of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements



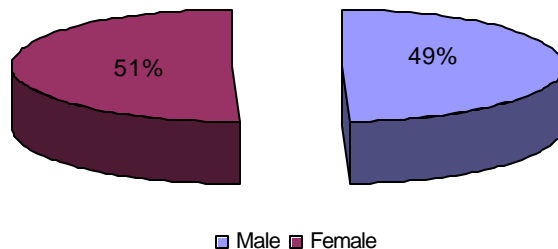
The largest group of children who experienced two or more placements were children between the ages of 12 and 15.

Chart 24b: Ages of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements



There were more female children than male children who experienced two or more placements.

Chart 24c: Gender of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements



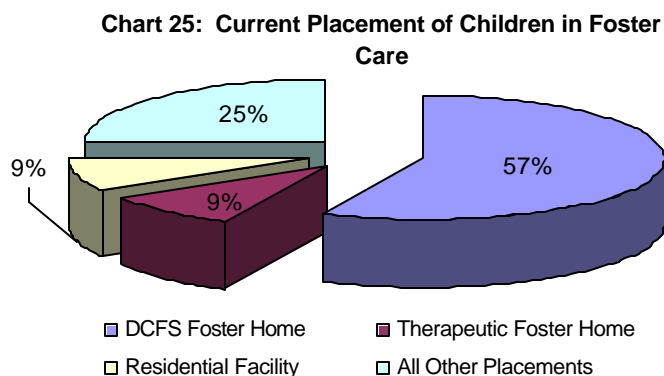
Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

More foster children were placed in DCFS foster homes (57%) at the end of the second quarter than in any other type of foster care placement.

Table 16: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter

Placement	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	Over 18	
DCFS Foster Home	255	504	434	309	192	47	1,741
Relative Care	5	22	33	23	2	0	85
Therapeutic Foster Home	2	31	114	93	41	9	290
Specialized Community Home	0	5	15	37	41	20	118
Pre-Adoptive Home	22	48	52	20	4	1	147
Emergency Shelter	1	11	22	31	21	0	86
Residential Facility	2	6	37	132	80	6	263
Youth Services	0	0	0	11	13	0	24
Runaway	1	1	0	15	31	0	48
Trial Home Visit	10	17	30	9	12	0	78
Hospital/Medical	0	0	10	27	25	1	63
Hospital	1	1	0	1	2	0	5
Community Service Organization	0	0	0	1	2	1	4
Sexual Offender Treatment	0	0	0	9	6	0	15
Detention	0	0	0	3	4	0	7
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	1	20	21
Medical Provider	0	0	4	3	4	1	12
Mental Health Provider	0	0	5	10	11	0	26
Education	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
ICPC/Adoptive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown*	4	2	3	5	5	0	19
Total	303	648	759	740	497	106	3,053

*Unknown due to data entry after report completion.



Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Year

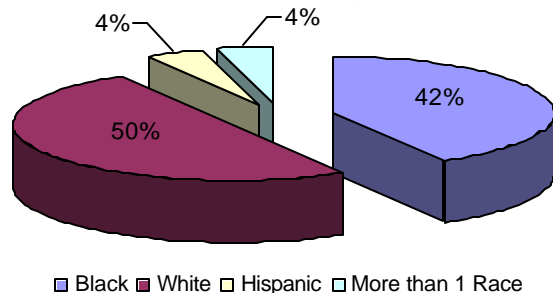
For the second quarter, there were 48 children on runaway status at the end of the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of those 48 children.

**Table 17: Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Year
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 to 5	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 to 11	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 to 15	Female	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Male	5	4	0	0	0	1	1	11
16 to 18	Female	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	12
	Male	9	8	0	0	0	1	1	19
Total		24	20	0	0	0	2	2	48

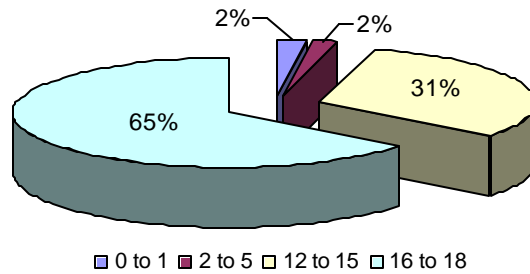
Of the children on runaway status at the end of the quarter, 50 percent were white and 42 percent were black. These percentages represented a slight difference from the previous quarter in which 45 percent were white and 48 percent were black.

**Chart 26a: Ethnicity of Children on Runaway Status
at the End of the Quarter**



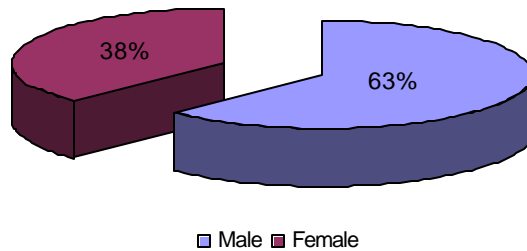
Sixty-five percent of the children who were on runaway status at the end of the quarter were between the ages of 16 and 18.

Chart 26b: Ages of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



The gender representation of children who were on runaway status at the end the quarter changed from the previous quarter. Sixty-three percent of the children were male, compared to 42 percent at the end of the first quarter and 38 percent of the children were female compared to 58 percent at the end of the first quarter.

Chart 26c: Gender of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

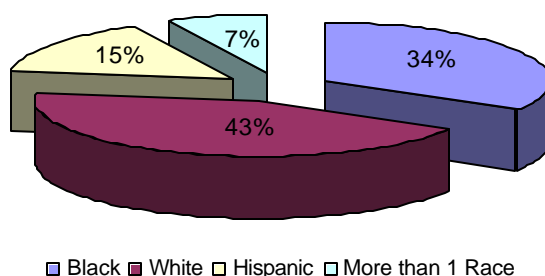
For the second quarter, there were 97 children in relative care. The following table outlines the children who were in relative care during the quarter.

**Table 18: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

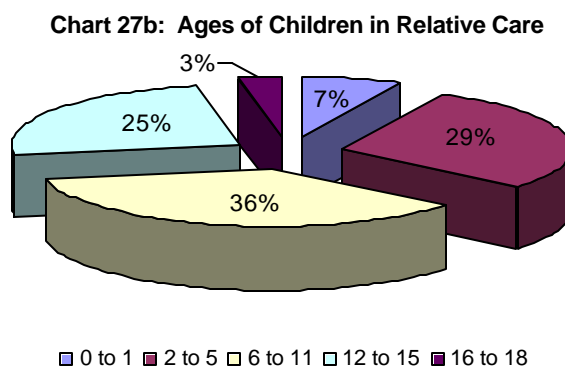
Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	4
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
2 to 5	Female	6	5	0	0	0	6	0	17
	Male	7	2	0	0	0	2	0	11
6 to 11	Female	7	4	0	0	0	3	2	16
	Male	12	6	0	0	0	0	1	19
12 to 15	Female	3	8	0	0	0	0	1	12
	Male	3	6	0	0	0	0	3	12
16 to 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		42	33	0	0	0	15	7	97

White children represented the highest percentage of children (43%) in relative care for the second quarter. During the previous quarter, black children represented the largest group of children in relative care. Of the children in relative care last quarter, 49 percent were black and 36 percent were white.

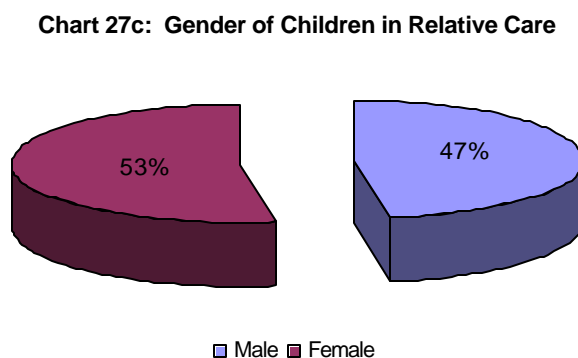
Chart 27a: Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care



Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of two and five.



Of the 97 children who were in relative care during the quarter, 53 percent were female and 47 percent were male.



Part III: Description of Population and Services
Section III: Adoption

Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter

There were 829 children with the permanency goal of adoption during the quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of children with the permanency goal of adoption.

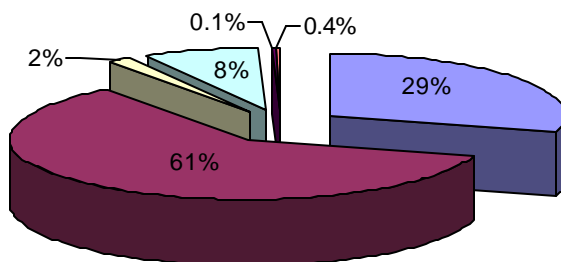
**Table 19: Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	16	8	0	0	0	2	4	30
	Male	16	9	0	0	0	0	0	25
2 to 5	Female	59	23	0	0	0	4	2	88
	Male	65	40	0	0	0	2	10	117
6 to 11	Female	75	36	0	0	0	2	19	132
	Male	111	46	0	0	0	1	13	171
12 to 15	Female	58	33	0	0	0	2	7	100
	Male	70	40	0	0	0	1	9	120
16 to 18	Female	16	5	0	0	0	0	0	21
	Male	17	3	1	0	0	0	1	22
Total*		503	243	1	0	0	14	65	826

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for three children.

Of the 829 children whose permanency goal was adoption during the quarter, 61 percent were white, 29 percent were black and 2 percent were hispanic. This was similar to the previous quarter.

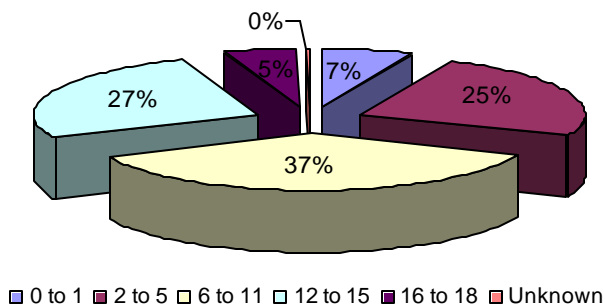
Chart 28a: Ethnicity of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter



■ Black ■ White ■ Hispanic ■ More than 1 Race ■ Other ■ Unknown

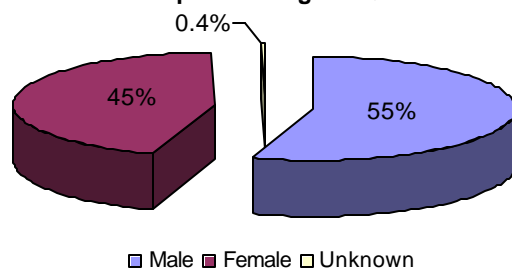
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children with a permanency goal of adoption.

Chart 28b: Ages of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter



Of the 829 children whose permanency goal was adoption, 55 percent of the children were male and 45 percent were female.

Chart 28c: Gender of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter



Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter

There were 769 children whose permanency goal at the end of the quarter was adoption. The table below outlines the characteristics for children with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter.

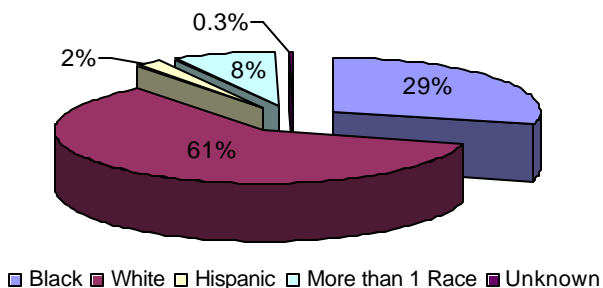
**Table 20: Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	13	7	0	0	0	2	4	26
	Male	14	6	0	0	0	0	0	20
2 to 5	Female	50	23	0	0	0	4	2	79
	Male	57	37	0	0	0	2	8	104
6 to 11	Female	71	34	0	0	0	2	18	125
	Male	106	41	0	0	0	1	13	161
12 to 15	Female	56	31	0	0	0	2	7	96
	Male	68	39	0	0	0	1	9	117
16 to 18	Female	15	4	0	0	0	0	0	19
	Male	16	3	0	0	0	0	1	20
Total*		466	225	0	0	0	14	62	767

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

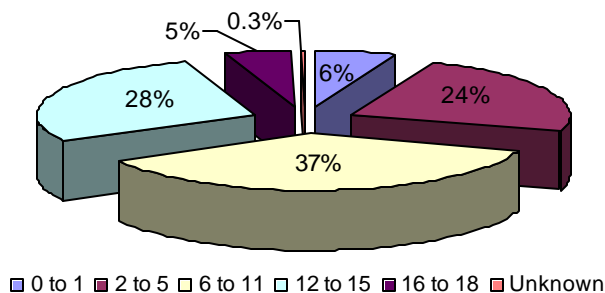
There were 769 children whose permanency goal was adoption at the end of the quarter. Of those, 61 percent were white, 29 percent were black and 8 percent were of more than one ethnicity. These percentages were similar to those children whose permanency goal was adoption during the quarter.

Chart 29a: Ethnicity of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter



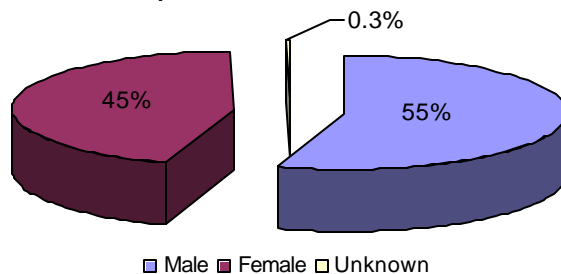
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 continued to represent the largest age group of children and children between the ages of 12 and 15 represented the second largest group of children whose permanency goal was adoption at the end of the quarter.

Chart 29b: Ages of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter



There were more male children (55%) than female children (45%) with the permanency goal of adoption at the end of the second quarter.

Chart 29c: Gender of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter



Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated during the Quarter

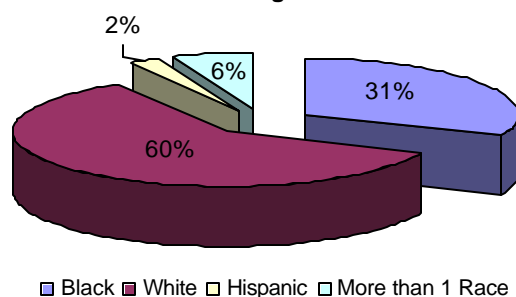
There were 48 children whose parents have had parental rights terminated during the second quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of children whose parents have had parental rights terminated during the second quarter.

**Table 21: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated during the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	6
	Male	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
2 to 5	Female	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
	Male	2	4	0	0	0	0	1	7
6 to 11	Female	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
	Male	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	10
12 to 15	Female	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	4
16 to 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		29	15	0	0	0	1	3	48

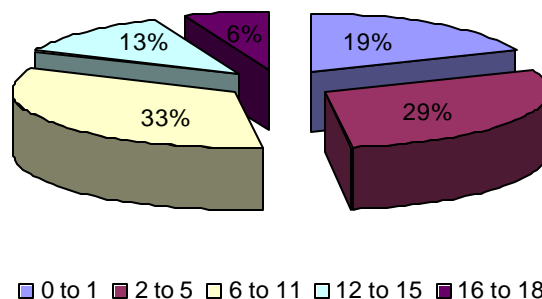
There were 60 percent of the children whose parents have had parental rights terminated during the quarter who were white, while 31 percent of the children were black.

Chart 30a: Ethnicity of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



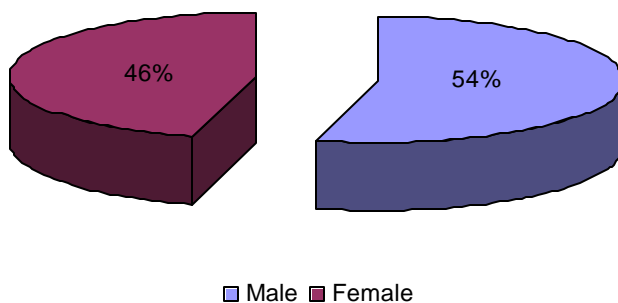
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter.

Chart 30b: Ages of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



There were more male children than female children whose parents have had parental rights terminated during the second quarter. This represented a change from the previous quarter where the majority of the children were female (55%).

Chart 30c: Gender of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter

There were 595 children available for adoption at the end of the second quarter. Demographic information for children available for adoption is very similar to previous reports.

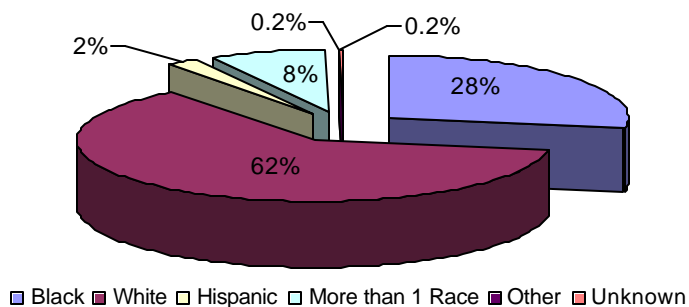
**Table 22: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	12	3	0	0	0	1	3	19
	Male	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	14
2 to 5	Female	32	15	0	0	0	5	2	54
	Male	40	29	0	0	0	2	7	78
6 to 11	Female	52	31	0	0	0	2	13	98
	Male	84	29	0	0	0	1	9	123
12 to 15	Female	46	22	0	0	0	1	6	75
	Male	62	27	0	0	0	1	5	95
16 to 18	Female	14	4	0	1	0	0	0	19
	Male	16	2	0	0	0	0	1	19
Total*		368	166	0	1	0	13	46	594

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for one child.

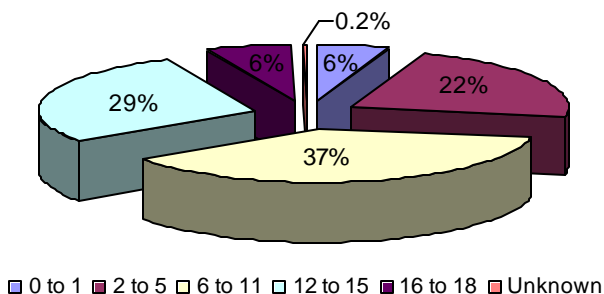
Of the children available for adoption, 62 percent were white and 28 percent were black.

**Chart 31a: Ethnicity of Children Available for Adoption
at the End of the Quarter**



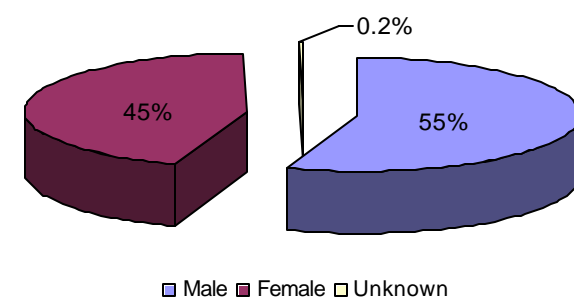
There were more children between the ages of 6 and 11 available for adoption at the end of the quarter than any other age group.

Chart 31b: Ages of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter



There were more male children available for adoption than female children at the end of the quarter; 55 percent of the children were male and 45 percent of the children were female.

Chart 31c: Gender of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter



Current Placement of Children Available for Adoption

More children available for adoption at the end of the second quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes than in any other type of placement, followed by adoptive homes. The results are the similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 23: Current Placement of Children Available for Adoption
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage
DCFS Foster Home	293	49%
Pre-Adoptive Home	96	16%
Therapeutic Foster Home	95	16%
Relative Care	22	4%
Specialized Community Home	29	5%
Residential Facility	28	5%
Hospital/Medical	18	3%
Emergency Shelter	3	.5%
Youth Services	6	1 %
Sexual Offender Treatment	3	.5%
Runaway	2	.3%
Total*	595	100%

*The sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Characteristics of Children in a Pre-adoptive Placement

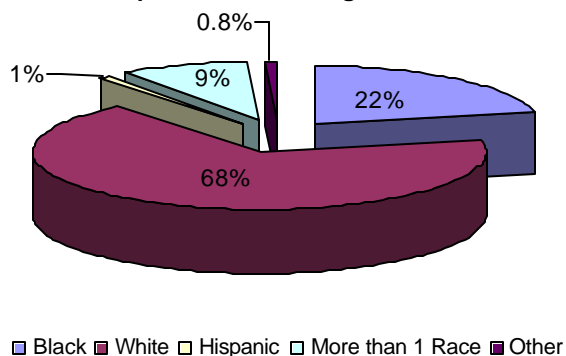
There were 120 children in a pre-adoptive home during the second quarter. This includes children who could have entered into a pre-adoptive home during the previous quarter as well as children who were placed in a pre-adoptive home during the quarter.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children in a Pre-adoptive Placement
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	7
	Male	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
2 to 5	Female	7	0	0	0	0	1	1	9
	Male	11	8	0	0	0	0	3	22
6 to 11	Female	12	2	0	0	0	0	3	17
	Male	23	6	0	0	0	0	2	31
12 to 15	Female	6	3	0	0	0	0	1	10
	Male	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	12
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Total		81	26	1	0	0	1	11	120

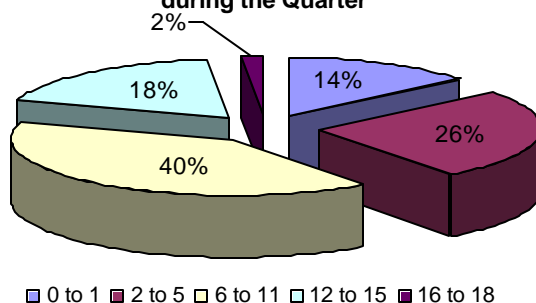
Of the 120 children in a pre-adoptive home during the quarter, 68 percent were white, 22 percent were black and 1 percent was hispanic.

Chart 32a: Ethnicity of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes during the Quarter



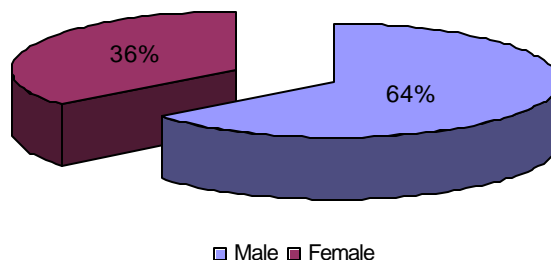
The largest group of children who were placed in pre-adoptive homes was between the ages of 6 and 11. The smallest percentage of children placed in a pre-adoptive placement was children who were between the ages of 16 and 18.

32b: Ages of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes during the Quarter



Of the 120 children placed in a pre-adoptive home during the quarter, 64 percent were male and 36 percent female.

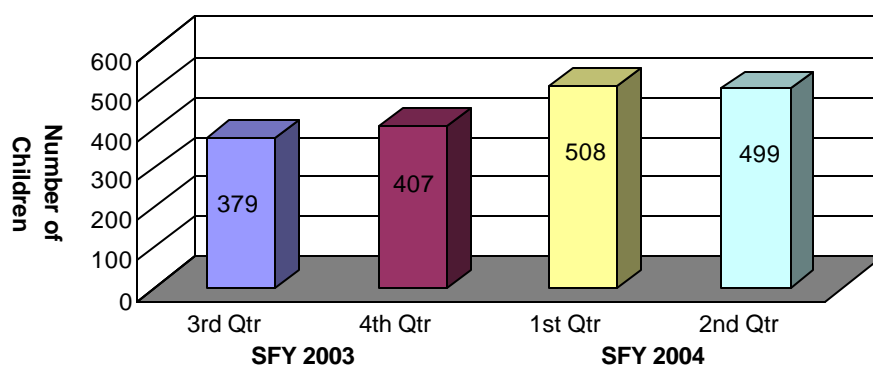
32c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes during the Quarter



Children not Placed in an Adoptive Home whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated

There were 499 children whose parental rights were terminated who were not placed in an adoptive home, a decrease from the previous quarter (508). This number was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (96) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (595).

Chart 33: Children not Placed in an Adoptive Home whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



Children with Special Needs

There were 64 children with special needs who were in a pre-adoptive placement during the second quarter¹⁵. Children with special needs are defined as children who have severe medical or psychological needs that require ongoing treatment. Children at high risk for the development of serious physical, mental or emotional condition may be considered special needs if documentation is provided by a medical professional specializing in the area of the condition for which the child is considered at risk. Other children may be considered special needs if they are a Caucasian child over the age of nine, an African American child who is two years old or older or a child who is a member of a sibling group of three or more that is being placed together.

Table 25:
Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Adoptive Homes
2nd Quarter SFY 2004

Special Need Condition	Number of Children
Race	42
Age	60
Member of sibling group	18

Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoption

There were 52 children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of those children.

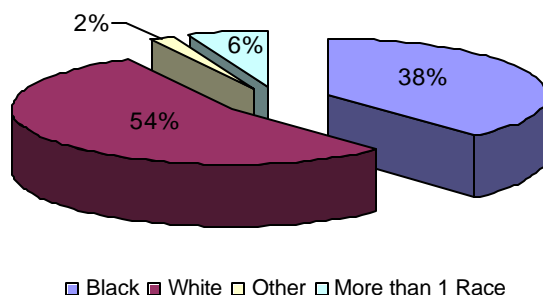
Table 26: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions
2nd Quarter SFY 2004

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Male	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	5
2 to 5	Female	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
	Male	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	9
6 to 11	Female	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	8
	Male	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	11
12 to 15	Female	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Male	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total		28	20	1	0	0	0	3	52

¹⁵ This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs because this data is not available in CHRIS (AR Children's Reporting and Information System). As enhancements are made to the data system to capture this information, it will be provided in future reports.

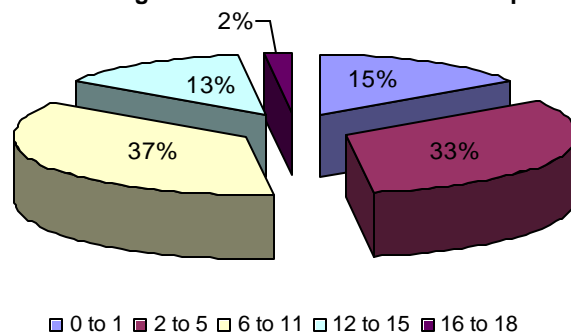
There were 52 children whose adoptions were finalized during the second quarter. Of those, 54 percent were white and 38 percent were black. The percentage of black children whose adoption was finalized increased 11 percentage points from the previous quarter (27%).

Chart 34a: Ethnicity of Children with Finalized Adoptions



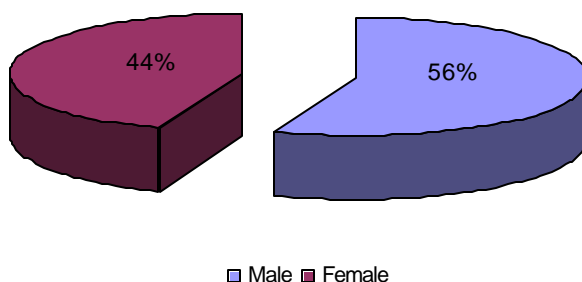
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.

Chart 34b: Ages of Children with Finalized Adoptions



There were more male children (56%) whose adoption was finalized during the quarter than female (44%). This represented a change from the previous quarter where the majority of the children were female (58%).

Chart 34c: Gender of Children with Finalized Adoptions



Subsidized Adoptions

There were 44 children who began receiving adoption subsidies during the second quarter. Of those, 40 children received federally funded subsidies, while four received state funded subsidies.

Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

There were 2,160 children receiving adoption subsidies during the second quarter. The following table outlines the demographics of children receiving adoption subsidies.

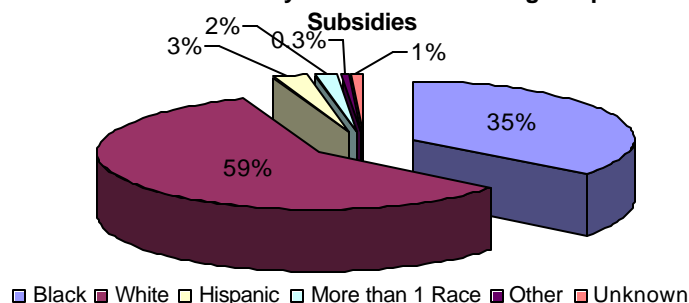
**Table 27: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
	Male	4	3	0	0	0	0	4	11
2 to 5	Female	107	60	0	0	0	9	13	189
	Male	109	46	0	0	0	9	7	171
6 to 11	Female	232	168	3	1	0	12	6	422
	Male	274	168	0	1	0	7	6	456
12 to 15	Female	182	113	0	1	0	6	0	302
	Male	190	126	0	0	0	7	0	323
16 to 18	Female	93	44	0	0	0	2	1	140
	Male	61	32	1	0	0	0	0	94
18+	Female	12	3	0	0	0	1	0	16
	Male	9	2	0	0	0	1	0	12
Total*		1,274	766	4	3	0	54	38	2,139

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 21 children.

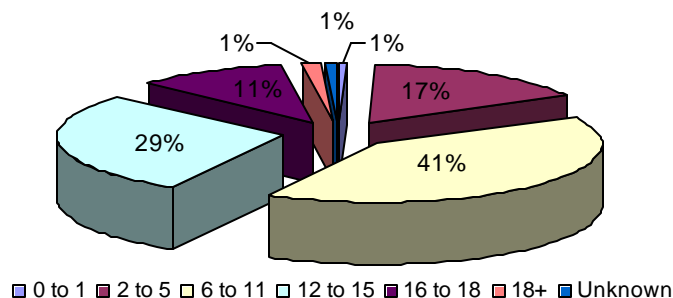
Fifty-nine percent of the children receiving adoption subsidies were white, while 35 percent were black.

Chart 35a: Ethnicity of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



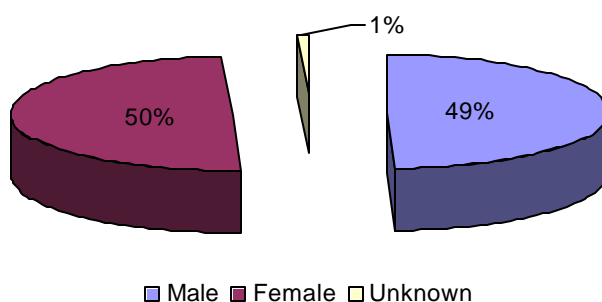
The majority of the children receiving adoption subsidies during the quarter were between the ages of 6 and 11.

Chart 35b: Ages of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



Of the children receiving adoption subsidies, 50 percent were female and 49 percent were male.

Chart 35c: Gender of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



Non-Foster Adoptive Homes

There were 178 adoptive homes available at the beginning of the quarter and 177 adoptive homes available at the end of the second quarter.

**Table 28: Non-Foster Adoptive Homes
2nd Quarter SFY 2004**

Homes available at beginning of quarter	178
Newly available homes	18
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	17
Home that experienced a disruption	0
Homes that closed without a placement	2
Homes available at the end of the quarter	177